

IN HONOR OF THE 180TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the nation of Greece on its triumphant 180th anniversary of winning independence. Throughout its glorious history, Greece has proven to be an inspiration to the United States.

The birthplace and cradle of democracy, Greece's long history of promoting the ideals of justice and freedom now serves as a stand against which we measure all other nations. The legacy of antiquity is still felt throughout the streets of Athens today. It was the ancient Greeks who first realized that the right of self-governance was an essential foundation of any civilized society. Although such principles seem elementary today, their ideas were revolutionary in their own time. We cannot discount the influence that ancient Greece has had on our nation.

In the founding of our nation, Greece served as a model by which the framers of the constitution structured our government. The political and philosophical influence of Greece can be felt throughout the institutions of our government. After helping to author our Constitution, Thomas Jefferson referred to Greece as "the light which led ourselves out of Gothic darkness." That same light, still shining from the distant memories of ancient Greece, guides our nation today.

Every year, the people of Greece come together to celebrate Greek Independence Day. Much like our own Fourth of July, Greek independence Day is a time for people to put aside difference and celebrate the vision which they share. It is a time to honor all people who join in the struggle for freedom. This year, it is important for all Americans to remember the history of independence and to remember where the roots of our nation originate.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring the nation of Greece, on the 180th anniversary of their independence.

IN HONOR OF HEATHER MEURER

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Heather Courtney Meurer, a young woman who recently and suddenly passed away at the age of 32. Heather was the daughter of my good friend, and a dedicated public servant, Fred Meurer, and her loss was felt immediately.

Born in Seoul, Korea, Heather was raised in Salinas, California, and graduated from Salinas High School in 1987. Since her high school graduation, Heather had been working at St. Agnes Medical Center while pursuing her education. She had completed an accounting degree at Fresno State University,

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

and was earning a master's degree in speech therapy at the time of her unfortunate death.

Heather's death, a young 32, is especially tragic because she had so much ahead of her, including exciting new opportunities through her upcoming speech therapy degree. She will be missed by her mother, Judi Albright Meurer and father Fred Meurer, both of Salinas, CA.; two sisters, Ashley Lafayette of Marina, CA., and Marie Barfuss of Utah; three brothers, David Meurer of Salinas, CA., and Steven and John Farnsworth of Utah; and her Korean birth mother, Monica Tedrowe. I sympathize with the Meurer family and their loss, and I can only hope that the love and support of their friends and community are helping them through this difficult time.

INTERNET APPRECIATION DAY

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to report that the Internet economy is alive and well.

In the past year, a perceived lack of public confidence has hampered an industry, which has limitless potential. Despite the negativity reported in the media, let it be known that 350 million Internet users worldwide truly enjoy this incredible medium. And that while the media has reported that almost 300 dotcoms have closed their doors since January 2000, more than 7,500 Internet-related companies have been funded by venture capital alone in the past 5 years. The Internet economy itself has created some 3 million jobs worldwide. In light of premature pessimism, industry leaders are calling on the 350 million Internet users worldwide to remember why they embraced the Internet in the first place by participating in "Internet Appreciation Day", on April 3d, with the launch of the 'Back the Net' campaign.

On April 3d, Internet users are being asked to show their support by donating to an online charity, purchasing something online or investing in their favorite online business. ICONOLAST, the San Francisco based company spearheading this effort is asking Internet users to alert at least 10 friends or their customer lists by sending a 'Back the Net' letter at www.iconocast.com/crusade.

The Internet has become a vital tool in our information society. It has grown exponentially through the 1990's and into the 21st century. This growth has fueled the economic prosperity of the last decade while giving businesses, consumers and more importantly the American family access to an unprecedented amount of information. More Americans are going online to conduct such day-to-day activities as education, business transactions, personal correspondence, research and information-gathering, and job searches. Each year, being digitally connected becomes ever more critical to economic and educational advancement as well as community participation. The family friendly Internet has brought happiness to America's families by increasing and enhancing communication across the country and across generations.

For these reasons friends of the Internet declare April 3d, 2001 "Internet Appreciation

March 27, 2001

Day" to once again help restore public confidence in and respect for the Internet.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, because I attended the Conference of the Speakers of the G-8 Parliaments with House Speaker DENNIS HASTERT in Rome, Italy, I missed the following Rollcall votes on March 22, 2001; Rollcall vote No. 56, on the Motion to Adjourn. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay." On Rollcall No. 57, passage of H. Res. 93, I would have voted "yea." On Rollcall No. 58, passage of H.R. 1099, I would have voted "yea." On Rollcall No. 59, passage of H.R. 802, I would have voted "yea." On Rollcall No. 60, the Traficant amendment to H.R. 247, I would have voted "aye." On Rollcall No. 61, passage of H.R. 247, I would have voted "aye."

CLEAN SMOKESTACKS ACT OF 2001

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am again joining with Representative BOEHLERT in introducing the Clean Smokestacks Act of 2001. This important legislation will finally cleanup the nation's dirty, antiquated powerplants.

When I originally introduced the Clean Smokestacks Act with Representative BOEHLERT in the last Congress, we had a modest beginning. I think we had a total of 15 cosponsors and little attention. But by the end of last year, the bill's supporters had grown to over 120 House Members.

This year, the Senate is joining in our effort. Senators JEFFORDS and LIEBERMAN have introduced a companion bill in the Senate, entitled the Clean Power Act. I am hopeful that together we can get the job done.

Electricity generation is our nation's single largest source of air pollution and greenhouse gas emissions. Nationally, power plants are responsible for about 40 percent of carbon dioxide emissions, 64 percent of sulfur dioxide emissions, 26 percent of nitrogen oxides emissions and 33 percent of mercury emissions.

These four pollutants are the major cause of some of the most serious environmental problems the nation faces, including acid rain, smog, respiratory illness, mercury contamination, and global warming. If we are going to improve air quality and reduce global warming, we must curb the emissions from these powerplants.

President Bush was right when he promised during the campaign to support legislation that would reduce all four powerplant pollutants. The Clean Smokestacks Act and the Clean Power Act embody this sensible approach. In fact, prior to the president's surprising reversal last week, I had hoped we could win the

President's support for our bipartisan approach.

Our job has become more difficult given the President's unfortunate decision to oppose curbing carbon dioxide emissions. But I believe that we have reached the point of no turning back on a four pollutant approach for powerplant emissions.

When the original Clean Air Act was enacted in 1970, the electric utility industry argued that stringent controls shouldn't be imposed on the oldest, dirtiest plants since they would soon be replaced by new state-of-the-art facilities. Although Congress acceded to these arguments and shielded old powerplants from the law's requirements, many of these facilities—which were already old in 1970—are still in use. In some cases, powerplants from 1922 are still in operation and have never had to meet the environmental requirements that a new facility would.

As a result, a single plant in the Midwest can emit as much pollution as the entire state of Massachusetts.

Opponents of our effort say that it will cost too much to address carbon dioxide emissions. But there have been at least four other studies published in the last six months by the Department of Energy and others that conclude that the costs of a multi-pollutant strategy will be quite reasonable.

In conclusion, let me commend Representative BOEHLERT and Senators JEFFORDS, LIEBERMAN, COLLINS, and SCHUMER. I am pleased to be part of this bipartisan, bicameral approach to strengthening the Clean Air Act and protecting our environment.

THE RETIREMENT OF FORREST S. MCCARTNEY

HON. DAVE WELDON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. WELDON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, at this time I would like to say a few words thanking Forrest McCartney for his service to the nation. I have the privilege of representing Florida's Space Coast, and Forrest has been a tremendous part of our community for many years. But, more importantly, his contributions to our nation's space program are remarkable.

Forrest retired on March 2 from his position as Lockheed Martin's chief of launch operations at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station and Vandenberg Air Force Base, a fitting end to an illustrious career.

Forrest McCartney was born in the town of Fort Payne, Alabama. He left rural Alabama to earn degrees in electrical engineering from Auburn and nuclear engineering from the USAF Institute of Technology.

Over the decades, Forrest served his nation in many ways. He retired from the Air Force as a Lt. General, and moved on to serve as the Director of NASA's Kennedy Space Center from 1986 through 1991. In 1994, he became a vice president for Lockheed Martin Astronautics in charge of space launch operations.

His military decorations and awards include the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit and one oak leaf cluster, Meritorious

Service Medal and Air Force Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters. He is the recipient of the General Thomas D. White Space Trophy and the Military Astronautical Trophy.

McCartney is a member of the board of trustees for the Florida Institute of Technology and was awarded an honorary doctorate degree from that institution. He also received NASA's Distinguished Service Medal and is one of five recipients of the National Space Club's Goddard Memorial Trophy presented in March 1989. In 1991 he received the AIAA von Braun Award for Excellence in Space Program Management and NASA's Presidential Rank Award. In 1992 he received the Debus award from the Space Club in Florida, and in 1993 he was the sole recipient of the Goddard Trophy.

I think it's safe to assume that his wife and two daughters are very proud of their father. The State of Florida and the entire nation owes Forrest McCartney a debt of gratitude for his service.

Forrest, on behalf of all of my colleagues in the U.S. Congress, we wish you well in your retirement.

TRIBUTE TO ATTORNEY FRED L. LANDER III

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to note with great sadness the passing of Attorney Fred L. Lander III, one of the great community leaders and Noted Civil Rights Attorneys of Dallas, Texas.

Attorney Lander, III was born on April 19, 1927 in Charlotte, North Carolina. He served in the U.S. Army during the time of the Korean Conflict. He received his Juris Doctorate Degree in 1952 from Howard University School of Law in Washington, D.C.

His job pursuits were numerous, including classroom teacher, independent Real Estate and Insurance operator. He held an administrative position with the Port of New York Authority and Hearing Officer with the New York State Department of Labor. He also served 30 years with the Federal Government at the Internal Revenue Service, the Federal Power Commission, the National Archives and Records Service and the Department of Justice's Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

He served with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission until his retirement on April 16, 1987. In the interim, he served as Crime Analysis and Executive Director of the Pilot District Police Community Relations Project for the District of Columbia. He was appointed an Administrative Law Judge for the Civil Service Commission in Dallas, Texas.

Attorney Lander, III was a Life Member of the National Bar Association, the J.L. Turner Legal Association, the Dallas County Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, the Texas Trial Lawyers Association, the American Bar Association, and the National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice.

In community service, his memberships included the Dallas Urban League (Life Member and former Board Member); the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (Life Member and former member of the Board of the Dallas Branch); OMEGA PSI PHI Fraternity, Inc. (Life Member); Paul Drayton Lodge No. 9 of the Free and Accepted Masons; Dallas Black Chamber of Commerce; Howard University Alumni Association; Progressive Voters League of Dallas; Regular Fellows Club (Past President); and Glen Oaks Homeowners Association (Legal Advisor).

He served on the Board of Directors of the Community Council of Greater Dallas, the North Texas Legal Services Foundation, the Dallas Office of the Opportunities Industrialization Center, the Park South YMCA, the Pylon

Attorney Lander, III was a Charter Advisor and participant of the C.A.W. Clark Legal Clinic. He was a 50-year member of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. and received the Man of the Year Award in 1977. He also received the President's Award for Outstanding Service in 1983 and the C.B. Bunkley Legal Service Award in 1989 from the J.L. Turner Legal Association; the Dallas Urban League Board Service Award in 1993 and the Whitney Young Award in 1995; and other awards, certifications, commendations and recognitions too numerous to mention.

He was certified to practice law before all Courts in the State of Texas, before the United States District Courts for the Northern and Eastern Districts of Texas, before the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit, and before the United States Supreme Court.

Attorney Fred L. Lander, III was a wonderful husband to his wife and a loving parent. He was the proud father of an U.S. Navy retiree and a Municipal Court Judge in Dallas, Texas. He also had three Godchildren, two Texas adopted grandchildren and his pet.

Mr. Speaker, Attorney Lander, III inspired his children, his peers, the Black community and all who knew him.

With his passing, I have lost a dear friend, many members of our community have lost a mentor, and the citizens of Dallas have lost a great Civil Rights Lawyer and community leader. He was truly an inspiration and will be missed. God bless his family. We commend him to you, dear Lord, in your eternal care. Amen.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT MARK W. CHARLTON, AIR NATIONAL GUARD, FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE

HON. PAUL E. GILLMOR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2001

Mr. GILLMOR. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to pay special tribute to an outstanding Non-Commissioned Officer in the Ohio Air National Guard. Chief Master Sergeant Mark W. Charlton is retiring after a distinguished career of over 34 years in the United States armed forces, most recently with